

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04581 110947Z

15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 NEA-10 AF-10 SAJ-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

AID-20 DRC-01 /159 W

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R 110907Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7503

USIA WASHDC

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 4581

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, YO OGEN XF

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT: MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

1. YUGOSLAV MEDIA OCT 10 CONTINUES EXTENSIVE NEWS COVERAGE OF MID-EAST CONFLICT WITH EMPHASIS ON REPORTS FROM ARAB SOURCES. LEADING BELGRADE DAILY POLITIKA DEVOTES NEARLY 3 ENTIRE PAGES TO CONFLICT WITH FRONT-PAGE HEADLINES: "BITTER FIGHTING ON GROUND, SEA AND AIR CONTINUES," AND, "BOMBS ON DAMASCUS AND CAIRO." (COMBINED RUETERS, AFP, TANJUG, MENA, UPI, AP REPORTS). SIMILAR COVERAGE BELGRADE DAILY BORBA. POLITIKA, OCT 10, CARRIES PAGE-ONE TANJUG ITEM ON BEIRUT NEWSPAPER AL ASHWAR'S CLAIM THAT U.S. IS URGENTLY SHIPPING NEWWEAPONS TO ISRAEL AND THAT "AIR BRIDGE" HAS PRACTICALLY BEEN ESTABLISHED BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND TEL AVIV. "THIS STEPPED-UP AID IS IN CONNECTION WITH EARLIER OFFICIAL PROMISES THAT U.S. WILL COMPENSATE ISRAEL FOR EVERY PLANE LOST IN FIGHTING ARABS," CONCLUDED REPORT.

2. FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMENTATOR ALEKSANDAR NENADOVIC IN OCT 10 POLITKKA EDIT WRITES THAT EXTENSION OF PRESENT STRUGGLE, "IM-
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POSED ON ARABS BY ISRAELI POLICY OF AGGRESSION," COULD HAVE

DISASTROUS INTERNATIONAL CONSEQUENCES. EFFORTS AT UN DIPLOMACY TO END FIGHTING ARE HYPOCRITICAL, CONCLUDES EDIT, AS LONG AS MAIN CAUSE OF WAR, ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES, IS AVOIDED.

3. POLITIKA'S NY CORR JURIJ GUSTINCIC IN OCT 10 COMMENTARY ENTITLED, "NO HURRY IN SECURITY COUNCIL," WRITES THAT US AND USSR HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT THAT MID-EAST WAR BE RESTRICTED "WITHIN LIMITS OF REGIONAL CONFLICT" AND SHOULD NOT HAVE INFLUENCE ON US-USSR RELATIONS.
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